LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6560 NOTE PREPARED: Jan 23, 2012 **BILL NUMBER:** SB 130 **BILL AMENDED:** Jan 19, 2012

SUBJECT: Environmental Board Consolidation.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Gard BILL STATUS: As Passed Senate

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Wolkins

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL IMPACT: State

 $\begin{array}{cc} \underline{X} & DEDICATED \\ \underline{X} & FEDERAL \end{array}$

<u>Summary of Legislation:</u> This bill repeals certain statutes creating the following boards: (1) Air Pollution Control Board. (2) Water Pollution Control Board. (3) Solid Waste Management Board. It defines "board" to exclude the repealed boards.

The bill establishes the Environmental Rules Board. It requires that a member of the Environmental Rules Board representing a certain constituency possess knowledge, experience, or education that qualifies the individual to represent the constituency being represented. It requires the board to appoint a technical secretary. It allows the board to appoint legal counsel and members of advisory committees. It provides that a member of an advisory committee is not entitled to a salary, per diem, or reimbursement of expenses. It requires the Environmental Rules Board to use rulemaking procedures to adopt rules. The bill also transfers to the board duties of the Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to adopt certain rules related to: (1) treatment plant or water distribution systems certification programs; and (2) the Waste Tire Management Fund. It transfers certain powers and duties of the repealed boards to the Environmental Rules Board.

Effective Date: July 1, 2012; January 1, 2013.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) Consolidation of Boards into the Environmental Rules Board: Consolidation of these three boards into the Environmental Rules Board could result in a reduction in expenses for IDEM. The extent of the savings will depend upon the number of meetings held and the amount of expenses (per diem and travel reimbursement) claimed by the members of the new board.

The Environmental Rules Board created by this bill will be composed of 15 members. The ex officio members

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of the Environmental Rules Board will be the Commissioner of the State Department of Health, the Director of the Department of Natural Resources, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Secretary of Commerce. Eleven members will be appointed by the Governor representing various sectors. The members of the board (excluding the ex officio members) are entitled to salary per diem and reimbursement for traveling expenses. The bill transfers all powers, duties, and liabilities from the abolished boards to the new Environmental Rules Board established by the bill.

The bill also requires the Environmental Rules Board to appoint a technical secretary and provides that they may appoint legal counsel. Current statute provides that the three boards being abolished by this bill shall also appoint technical secretaries and may appoint legal counsel to serve the boards.

<u>Background Information</u> - Air Pollution Control Board: The Air Pollution Control Board has 12 members: 4 ex officio members, and 8 members representing various constituencies appointed by the Governor. Statute requires the board to meet six times. During FY 2011, the board had expenses of about \$5,000 paid from the Air EPA Federal Grant Fund.

Water Pollution Control Board: The Water Pollution Control Board has 12 members: 4 ex officio members, and 8 members representing various constituencies appointed by the Governor. The board usually holds six meetings a year. During FY 2011, the board had expenses of about \$2,000 paid from the Water EPA Federal Grant Fund.

Solid Waste Management Board: The Solid Waste Management Board consists of 14 members: 10 members appointed by the Governor to represent specific constituencies and 4 ex officio members representing other state agencies involved in environmental issues. Statute requires the board to meet six times per year. During FY 2011, the board had expenses of about \$1,400 paid from the Solid Waste Management Fund.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: IDEM.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: IDEM website; Brad Baughn, IDEM, 317-234-3386.

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